Expansion Scenario of IT Industry

341. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per NASSCOM-Mckinsey report, annual revenue projections of IT industry in 2008 would be US$87 billion;

(b) if so, the details of our expansion scenario; and

(c) which are our major international markets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD) : (a) and (b) The NASSCOM-Mckinsey Report 2002, has projected an opportunity of revenue generation of $ 70-80 billion in the year 2008 for Indian software and IT services sector. The break-up of this are as follows:

	Year 2008
IT Services Exports	$ 28-30 billion
Software Products	$ 8-11 billion
IT Enabled Services Exports	$ 21-24 billion
Domestic Market	$ 13-15 billion
TOTAL	$ 70-80 billion
Export	$ 57-65 billion

(c) Our major international markets are: USA, UK, Japan, Germany, Singapore, Canada. The Netherlands, Australia, France, Finland, Switzerland, Sweden, Hong Kong, Africa, Italy, China, South Korea, Mexico, Brazil.

Demand of Telephone connections

342. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any time-bound plan under consideration in order to provide telephone connections to unconnected villages, all tehsils and block headquarters;

(b) if so, the time-frame to meet the target;

(c) the anticipated demand of connections; and

(d) whether Government have necessary infrastructure including finance to achieve the targets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Agreements have been signed with M/s. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) in November, 2004 for extending subsidy support for the provision of Village Public Telephones (VPTs) in 66,822 unconnected villages, excluding villages which are depopulated, naxalite/insurgency infested, having population of less than hundred persons and those lying in deep forest areas. These 66,822 villages are likely to be provided with VPTs in a phased manner within three years i.e. by November, 2007.

(c) As on 31.12.2004, there is a demand of 13,48,624 telephone connections registered with BSNL in rural areas of the country.

(d) Support from Universal Service Obligation (USO) Fund is being provided for the provision of VPTs in unconnected villages as mentioned at (a) and (b) above.

Burden of landline subscribers

343. SHRIMATI SARLA MAHESHWARI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Access Deficit Charges in India is the lowest in the world;

(b) on what ground the ADC is further reduced;

(c) whether this would not increase the burden on landline subscribers in the country especially in rural and backward areas; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) No, Sir.